

## Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

UNCLAS STATE 004266

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: ASCH, NP

SUBJECT: SECONDARY SCHOOL FACILITIES AT AES NEW DELHI

REF: KATHMANDU TEL 0047

1. APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENTS RE CONCERN AT CLOSING OF AES BOARDING OPERATION. THIS MOST DIFFICULT DECISION FOR DEPARTMENT, EMBASSY NEW DELHI AND AES SCHOOL BOARD. NECESSITY AROSE PRIMARILY BECAUSE OF PROHIBITIVE COST OF MAINTAINING EXPENSIVE BOARDING OPERATION FOR VERY SMALL NUMBER BOARDERS. AS YOU KNOW, OF 14 BOARDING SCHOOL CHILDREN THIS YEAR, ONLY 4 FROM KATHMANDU. AES SCHOOL BOARD HAS BEEN CHARGED WITH RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE OPERATION AES SELF-SUSTAINING. THUS, DEFICIT OF BOARDING OPERATION UNNECESSARILY RAISES COST OF TUITION (ONLY SOURCE OF INCOME) TO IMPRACTICAL LEVEL FOR ALL OTHER USERS OF SCHOOL AND IF COST OF BOARDING OPERATION WAS SPREAD AMONG BOARDERS ONLY, WOULD RAISE AWAY FROM POST EDUCATION ALLOWANCE TO AN UNJUSTIFIABLE AND NON-SUPPORTABLE AMOUNT-

2. HOWEVER, DEPARTMENT, EMBASSY NEW DELHI AND AES SCHOOL BOARD WISH TO BE OF WHATEVER ASSISTANCE POSSIBLE AND MINIMIZE HARDSHIP FOR DEPENDENTS USG IN THAT AREA

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WHERE HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS NOT OFFERED LOCALLY.

RECOGNITION THIS POSITION SUPPORTED BY FACT EMBASSY

NEW DELHI AND AES SCHOOL BOARD HAVE MADE ARRANGEMENTS FOR PLACEMENT BOARDERS WITH LOCAL FAMILIES, AT LEAST FOR BALANCE THIS SCHOOL YEAR.

3. DEPARTMENT WILL SOLICIT EMBASSY NEW DELHI AND AES SCHOOL BOARD ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATION IN THIS TYPE OF OPERATION FOR FUTURE YEARS. FYI, AMERICAN-SPONSORED SCHOOLS IN COPENHAGEN, THE HAGUE, AND ROME HAVE PLACED USG DEPENDENTS IN APPROVED HOMES FOR SEVERAL YEARS.
4. BEFORE EMBASSY NEW DELHI AND AES SCHOOL BOARD CAN REACT TO THIS TYPE OF SITUATION MUST HAVE PRECISE FIGURES IN ORDER ASCERTAIN NEEDS FOR HOUSING IN NEW DELHI. THEREFORE, PLEASE ADVISE EMBASSY NEW DELHI (WITH COPY TO DEPARTMENT), NAME, AGE, GRADE LEVEL, AND SEX OF CHILDREN FROM KATHMANDU FOR WHOM SUCH ARRANGEMENTS WOULD BE NECESSARY NEXT YEAR. KISSINGER

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